Michael O. Leavitt Governor Ted Stewart Executive Director James W. Carter Division Director 1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210 Box 145801 Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801 801-538-5340 801-359-3940 (Fax) 801-538-7223 (TDD)

April 7, 1997

B. T. Webster U.S. Gypsum Company P.O. Box 570160 Sigurd, Utah 84657

Re:

Receipt of Environmental Assessment UT-066-97-7, U.S. Gypsum Company, Proposed San Rafael Quarry, M/015/075, Emery County, Utah

Dear Mr. Webster:

This letter is to inform you that we have received a copy of the Environmental Assessment (EA) submitted to the Bureau of Land Management by TRC Mariah Associates, Inc. for U.S. Gypsum Company's proposed San Rafael Quarry operations. The proposed operations will affect sections 7, 18, 17, 16, 22 and 21, T23S, R8E, Emery County, Utah. The area encompassed in the EA includes areas currently under our Exploration Notice E/015/066 and BLM Notice UTU-71056. From our telephone conversation of April 3, 1997, it is our understanding that U.S. Gypsum intends to submit a Plan of Operations to the BLM, and a separate Large Mine Operation Notice of Intention to the Division after the EA process has been completed. Both of these documents will describe the same operation, however, each document will be formatted according to the rules and regulations of the respective agencies. We have assigned large mine file number M/015/075 to the action proposed under this EA.

At this time, we have not reviewed the EA and, therefore, we have no specific comments. A general comment from the Division would be to assure that the proposed mine operation described in the EA has addressed all the information requirements of the Large Mine Operations section of the Minerals Rules (copy enclosed). In addition to this general comment, the Division will attempt to provide specific comments on this EA prior to the April 25, 1997, comment deadline. Due to other permitting issues we may not be able to review this submission prior to this date. Typical time frames for completion of our initial review of a large mine notice have been 45 to 60 days from our receipt of the submission.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns. Please reference our file number M/015/075 in correspondence regarding this proposed operation.

Sincerely,

Anthony A. Gallegos

Senior Reclamation Specialist

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Enclosure: Minerals Rules

cc: Neil Simmons, Price BLM

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